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New Buffalo Times

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DROP THE BEAT...

JAZZ FEST DEBUTS IN THREE OAKS

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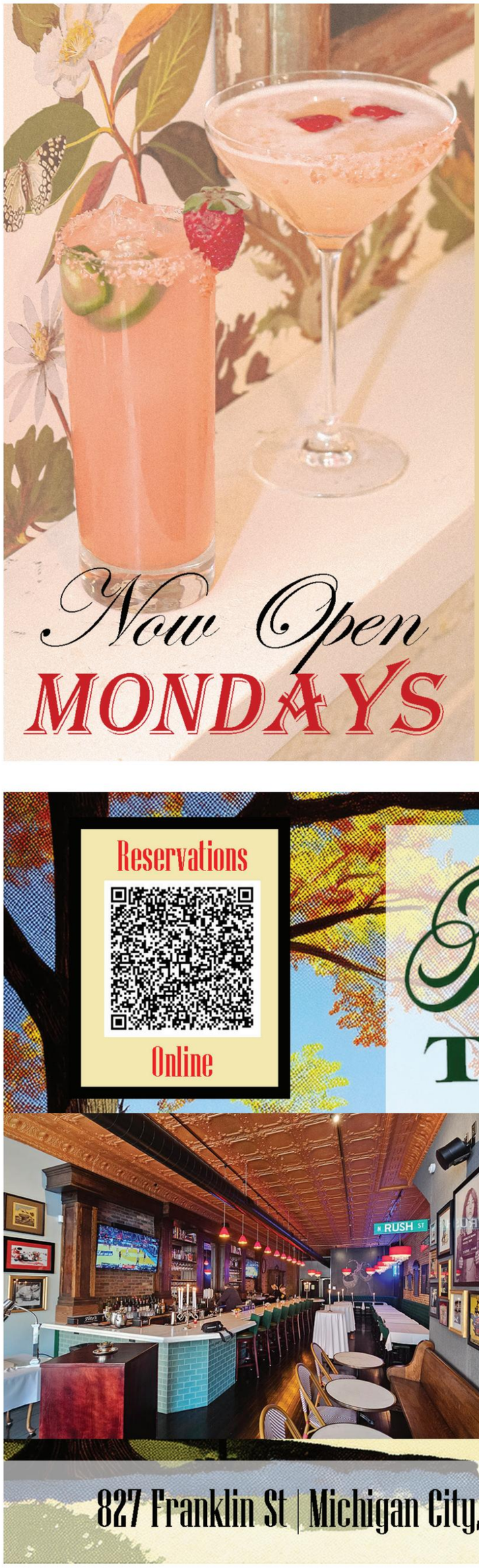

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Large crowd at candlelight vigil for assassinated political activist

BY STAN MADDUX

About 300 people turned out for a candlelight vigil outside the downtown La Porte courthouse Saturday evening in honor of assassinated conservative activist Charlie Kirk.

Many participants grieved and called for an end to the political violence while expressing a commitment to continue on with the message of Kirk, founder of Turning Point USA.

"Thank you, Charlie. We will keep spreading your word," said La Porte resident Tom Giglio, who described his reaction to the fatal shooting on the campus of Utah Valley University on Sept. 10 as very emotional.

"I cried. My heart wept," he said.

"He was, by far, the best us," said La Porte County Commissioner Joe Haney, who hosted the event.

Utah resident Tyler Robinson, 22, is charged with delivering the fatal single round from the top of a building about 150 yards away while Kirk was giving a presentation under a tent.

La Porte County Republican Party Chairman Al Stevens said the turnout spoke volumes about Kirk and his impact, which he felt was similar to Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. before and after he was assassinated by a gunman during the Civil Rights movement.

"You can kill the messenger, but you can't kill the message I think is important to remember here," he said.

Kirk was credited with persuading enough young people with his message about conservative values that it could have potentially decided the outcome of the November presidential election.

He did so while challenging people from the opposite side of the spectrum to express and explain their beliefs.

La Porte County Council President Adam Koronka called the tragic shooting "a call for people to come together instead of resorting to violence."

"Speak your thoughts. Speak your opinions and be able to talk about them. That's what we really have to look for going forward after all of this," he said.

Since the assassination, republicans and democrats in some states like Rhode Island have already pledged to turn down the temperature of the political rhetoric out of respect for all forms of human life and differences of opinion.

"His entire life was talking, communicating and having a dialogue, which is what we need. They stole that voice from us and it hurts. It really does," said Haney, who's in the first year of his second term.

In New York City, if your shoes are "worn" usually the first impression you receive is you're homeless ...
— Dino N. Fatouros

Local Government Meetings

New Buffalo Times

Democracy Requires Transparency

CITY OF NEW BUFFALO
VANCE PRICE, MAYOR
CITY COUNCIL
MARK ROBERTSON, ROGER LIJEWSKI, KAREN GEAR, RICH KNOLL, VANCE PRICE
City Council meets on the 3rd Monday of each month at 6:30PM
CITY OF NEW BUFFALO PLANNING COMMISSION MEETINGS
Meets on the 1st Tuesday of each month at 5:30PM
NEW BUFFALO TOWNSHIP BOARD
HOWARD MALES, MICHELLE HEIT, MICHELLE HANNON, PATTY IAZZETTO, BARBARA ANDERSON
Board meets on the 3rd Monday of each month at 4PM
NEW BUFFALO TOWNSHIP PLANNING COMMISSION
Meets on the 1st Tuesday of each month at 6:30PM
SHERIFF BERRIEN COUNTY
Sheriff, Chuck Heit
Undersheriff, Greg Sanders
NEW BUFFALO AREA RECREATIONAL AUTHORITY
Meets at 10AM on the 2nd Wednesday of every other month (odd) at New Buffalo Township Hall, 17425 Red Arrow Highway New Buffalo
NEW BUFFALO AREA SCHOOLS BOARD
LISA WERNER, JOHN HASKINS, DENISE CHURCHILL, JENNIFER SUMMERS, VANESSA THUN, STEPHEN DONNELLY, GREG VOSBERG
The Board meets on the 2nd and 4th Mondays of each month at 6PM
CHIKAMING TOWNSHIP
CHIKAMING TOWNSHIP BOARD
DAVID BUNTE, PAULA DUDIAK, LIZ RETTIG, RICHARD SULLIVAN, ARTHUR ANDERSON
Chikaming Board meets on the 2nd Thursday of each month at 6:30PM
CHIKAMING TOWNSHIP PLANNING COMMISSION
Meets on the 1st Wednesday of each month at 6:30PM
THREE OAKS
THREE OAKS TOWNSHIP BOARD
Meets on the 2nd Monday of each month at 7PM
VILLAGE OF THREE OAKS BOARD
Meets on the 2nd Wednesday of each month at 7PM
GRAND BEACH
Meets on the 3rd Wednesday at 5PM EST
KIMBERLY WOLNIK, CLERK-TREASURER
HARRY WALDER, JACK GRACE, ED SEBASTIAN, PETER DOERR, EDWARD BRANDES
MICHIANA
VILLAGE OF MICHIANA COUNCIL
Meets on the 2nd Friday of each month at 1PM

Village Council to investigate selling Elm Street lot

BY THERESE DONNELLY

The question of how to handle a landlocked village lot may soon be settled, as the Three Oaks Village Council has decided to look into selling the land.

Adjacent property owners Bridget and Tad Verdun had previously requested the village consider selling them the lot at 114 N Elm St. At the council's Wednesday, Sept. 10, meeting, Bridget Verdun noted the lot is currently used for public parking, but vehicles can only access the lot by encroaching on the adjacent property.

The lot is unbuildable, limiting use by a third party.

Village manager Dan Faulkner said he has spoken with village committees, and none expressed any interest in using the parcel.

While the sale of municipal property generally requires a public sale, village attorney Charles Hilmer said it would be possible in this scenario. The council instructed Faulkner to obtain an appraisal and enter negotiation for the sale.

The village zoning ordinance does not allow the elimination of public parking spaces, so the council will pass an ordinance to allow this sale.

The council authorized the purchase of a new patrol vehicle for the village police department, and associated decals and equipment. Police Chief Carl Krause explained a department vehicle was wrecked after hydroplaning while responding to an emergency call. Insurance will pay for much of the cost, and the council approved up to $11,000 for the balance.

Krause said the state purchasing program is backed up several months, but he was able to locate a new Dodge Durango at a nearby dealership. While not all of the equipment from the previous vehicle, which was a Ford, is compatible with the new one, Krause said the new vehicle has better accessibility for the spare tire and fire extinguisher.

Krause told the council the new vehicle door shield is based on the department's original badge design.

Additionally, the council approved the purchase of upgraded vehicle cameras and body cameras for the police department. Krause said the current equipment has passed its expected life cycle and the offered replacement plan from Verizon did not include upgrades to the newest technology at the end of the term. The new cameras from Axon will total up to $56,000 and include installation and labor.

Krause said the new cameras will automatically upload to the department computer and allow footage to be emailed to the prosecutor's office, rather than officers driving a physical copy to St. Joseph.

The council discussed two ordinances. Councilmember Lois Jones explained ordinances generally exist to grant permission and if something isn't allowed in an ordinance, it is not allowed. However, she said for the sake of clarity, it would be best to clearly state restrictions on storage containers.

A new ordinance will prohibit storage containers but will allow the short-term use of movable pods while occupants move in or out of a residence.

Councilmember John Kramer said residents have asked him if side-by-side vehicles are permitted on village streets under the golf cart ordinance. Faulkner recommended researching a separate ordinance and noted the village would need to coordinate with Three Oaks Township to make restrictions consistent.

While expressing reluctance, the council accepted a resignation letter from Public Service Committee member Richard Smith.

Work to identify lead and copper water lines has stalled while the village needs to get permission from the Michigan Department of Transportation before accessing lines along US-12.

The Hickory Street bridge project will likely not start this fall as originally planned. Project manager Andrew Rudd said Amtrak has requested a demolition plan for the work, which will span a section of the train line.

Progress on the wastewater lagoons is nearing completion. The council approved a draw of $206,126.83 from the state grant, with a $185,729.23 payment to Oselka Construction coming from the draw.

The village's wait list for short-term rental licenses is nearly ready to accept applicants.

A large item pick up will take place Saturday, Oct. 11. Members of the American Legion and the Masons will help remove items left on the curb that day. A list of what is not permitted in the pick-up will be available on the village website.

Residents may also drop off unused medications at the village police department during these hours for safe disposal.

Jones and Faulkner have created a survey for updates to the village master plan. Residents will be able to find it on the village website and Facebook page and at the village office and library.

Councilmember Mike Springer said park improvements have been possible thanks to volunteer work, including over 100 hours from Brian Underley and 72 hours from Ira Johnson. Springer said the many hours worked show the need for a seasonal or full-time staff member to help with park maintenance.

Nothing is so necessary for a young man as the company of intelligent women. — *Leo Tolstoy*

City council approves annual Halloween parade in the city

BY THERESE DONNELLY

Since Halloween in the city is officially scheduled for Sunday, Oct. 26, the New Buffalo City Council approved a special event application for the annual costume parade and trick or treating at their Monday, Sept. 15, meeting.

Event organizer Ryan Kaumpf told the council the parade will start at 3 pm, with trick or treating running from 3:30 to 5:30p.m.

Trick or treating in the city is traditionally held the Saturday before Oct. 31.

Returning to unfinished business from a previous meeting, the council approved an addendum to an extraterritorial fire service agreement with New Buffalo Township to have New Buffalo Township Fire Chief Jamie Flick serve as acting fire chief for the city until a permanent one can be hired.

Flick was already approved by the council; however, the September addendum establishes his stipend from the city, which is retroactive to when he started the job in July.

There have been discussions of consolidating fire departments. Flick said a committee is currently considering manpower and staffing issues.

City Manager Darwin Watson presented the council with a proposed revision to the city's leaf and branch collection policy. He explained in an effort to make pickup more efficient, the revision would divide the city into three sections, with set dates for curbside collection based on the section.

Councilmember Mark Robertson said he was concerned inclement weather could impact the schedule. Watson said the schedule would allow residents to know when to leave their yard waste out, and there would be flexibility within the plan.

The council passed the revision. A copy of the schedule is available at the city's website, cityofnewbuffalo.org.

On the recommendation of the Planning Commission, the council approved two residential site plans. Marcin Orpik applied for a single-family dwelling with an attached garage and a swimming pool at 16 N. Eagle, and Patrick and Christine Roche applied for a two-story detached accessory building and swimming pool at 211 S. Whittaker.

The Parks Department has requested the transit marina parking lot be repaired and reconfigured to accommodate anticipated increased use from the marina improvements.

The council approved a proposal from Affordable Asphalt Paving and Bulldozing for $43,850 for the work, which Watson said will add 10 parking spaces and adjust the entryway.

As part of a cooperative effort to encourage economic development in local communities, the council passed a resolution to confirm the city's support for a cross municipal cooperative (CMC) to identify local needs and opportunities for development. Up to $52,540 from Pokagon Fund monies have been allocated for CDC programs and activities.

Following an investigation by the city police department into traffic patterns, the council voted to limit street parking in portions between Barton and Taylor streets, from Buffalo Street to the Amtrak right of way to three hours from Memorial Day to Labor Day, and approved creating a four-way stop at the intersection of Willard and Mechanic streets.

Police Chief Rich Killips explained many nearby residents have complained about vehicles travelling at unsafe speeds, making it difficult for bikers and pedestrians to cross.

Councilmember Rich Knoll said he had already seen a newly installed stop sign at the intersection. Killips said the public works department "got a little rambunctious" about the work.

The council had the second readings of proposed amendments to Chapters 6 and 7 of the Code of Ordinances.

The change to Chapter 6 will enable the city to recover the costs of certain emergency calls for at-fault non-residents, removing the burden from taxpayers. The list of qualifying events includes illegal fires, physical threats, and repeated calls to the same location.

The change to Chapter 7 will reduce the number of members on the Harbor Commission from five to three. Mayor Vance Price said efforts to get five members to serve have been unsuccessful. The Harbor Commission cannot conduct business without a quorum.

Returning to unfinished business from a previous meeting, the council approved an addendum to an extraterritorial fire service agreement with New Buffalo Township to have New Buffalo Township Fire Chief Jamie Flick serve as acting fire chief for the city until a permanent one can be hired.

Union Pier resident Judith Spanierman addressed the council during public comments to ask for better conditions on Marquette Drive. Spanierman said she was riding her bicycle near the city beach when she hit a pothole, then skidded on sand blown in from the dunes. The fall resulted in a badly broken arm. She said if a Berrien County deputy hadn't seen her fall and come to her aid, she may have been hit by a passing vehicle.

Spanierman added that Marquette has long had an issue with potholes and other conditions unsafe for bikes and walking. She asked the council to consider action to avoid further problems.

The council discussed, but took no action on, a request from resident Bert Shedd to vacate the platted section of South Smith Street adjacent to his home at 219 Madison Avenue. Watson said Shedd wants to build a single-story residence and the platted street is at city limits with no current utilities.

In October, the council will consider a proposal regarding sidewalk requirements at new residential constructions.

Jeana Anderson Cohen gave the council a brief presentation on the hotel/event space Petite Acres at 1109 E. Buffalo Street.

As part of the presentation, Anderson Cohen said they are applying for a grant from the Michigan Economic Development Corporation to fund community events. Watson said, if the grant is awarded, the city would act as the fiduciary, dispersing funds for programs.

Petite Acres has requested the council pass a resolution of support as part of their grant application. The council is scheduled to vote on the matter at their October meeting.

Price said he had recently met with John Moultrie regarding plans for multiple events in New Buffalo in 2026. Price said Moultrie is coordinating with New Buffalo Area Schools to involve student clubs in the festival.

Prior to adjournment, Watson said there is currently an "Ax MI Tax" movement aiming to eliminate property tax in the state. Watson said without this revenue source, many services provided by local governments will be eliminated and essential funding from the state will be a very slow process.

"It's not what it appears," he said.

Chikaming Township Board fields short-term rental concerns

ADOPTS CROSS MUNICIPALITY COLLABORATIVE RESOLUTION

BY FRANCESCA SAGALA

A discussion surrounding concerns on the increasing number of short-term rentals was initiated at the Chikaming Township Board of Trustees' Thursday, Sept. 11, meeting.

Township Supervisor David Bunte said that the township has tried to manage the problem with a code enforcement officer and inspections.

He added that the township has about 5,000 total parcels and that or above 10 percent of the total parcels are STRs.

The increasing number of STRs has put additional strains on infrastructure, road-end beaches and public safety.

Having discussions, he said, will hopefully "engage the public and community on what can we do or what else can we do and come to some kind of amicable relationship with the the short-term rental market."

Fran Wersells, who resides in Union Pier, said that the road-end beaches are "overrun" with renters "who are just coming up for the day" and "not bringing anything into the economy unless shopping at Whistle Stop."

"They're parked up and down Berrien Street, they cut through people's yards – we've lost our community, and we are desperately trying to convince you to do something to give it back to us," she said.

Sue Koenigsberg said that the township should look at what other communities are doing, such as limiting the number of weeks that people can rent. Another resident added that the township could possibly limit the number of STRs, which would make them "more desirable."

Sue Koenigsberg said that the township should look at what other communities are doing, such as limiting the number of weeks that people can rent. Another resident added that the township could possibly limit the number of STRs, which would make them "more desirable."

Another suggestion was figuring out a way to finance additional people to manage the "peak time" of STRs, which is May through September; however, Bunte said the issue lies with finding people for the job.

It was said that the township's former program, Granicus, had a hotline that was more "real time and effective" regarding reporting STR complaints; however, Bunte said that the issue is that no one reports on problems. The township was averaging 18-20 complaints a year, which is almost same amount right now, he said.

Board members adopted a resolution regarding its commitment to be part of a "joint, collaborative effort to increase economic opportunities in southwestern Berrien County."

For the past few years, Bunte said, Chikaming Township and other municipalities in southwestern Berrien County have been participating in a Cross Municipal Collaborative (CMC) group.

The group has held three interviews with the following organizations regarding hiring someone for a regional economic development position: Southwest Michigan First, Cornerstone Alliance and Southwest Michigan Regional Chamber of Commerce.

The Pokagon Fund has volunteered to cover half of the annual fee for this position from each of the municipalities, with Chikaming's contribution being $12,500 for the first year and the township looking for a three-year commitment.

Three Oaks Township, New Buffalo Township and the City of New Buffalo will also be asked to pass a resolution.

Trustee Rich Sullivan said he's not sure if local people who live here year-round want the expansion of the tourist season in the greater area of the different municipalities, which is what's stated in the summary of the resolution.

Also listed under challenges is a "high demand for vacation and second homes," with Sullivan saying that there's a "high demand for local people who can afford a house and live in this community."

Regarding the organization's job to "create and lead implementation of regional events, celebrations, and leisurely activities in the service area, targeting specific market demographics with different events especially during the traditional off season," Sullivan asked if they wanted more events that would create a "play area rather than an area for year-round residents."

Bunte said that one of the goals of the regional economic development position would be for someone to work with the municipalities, all of which have different needs.

"Economic conditions and all those other factors we can't control but what we can control is the specific nuances that our community has and then also support the communities surrounding us with the same visions of trying to bring it all together," he said.

Board members approved the 2024-2025 fiscal year audit review.

Regarding the end of the year fund balance, the General Fund was $3 million, Public Safety was $672,000 and Road Maintenance was $138,000.

Allison Allman from Kruggel Lawton said revenues came in higher than what was budgeted, which was $1.7 million, for the General Fund, with the actuals coming in at $1.9 million, with a variance of $168,000. Expenditures ended at $1.6 million, and the actual was $1.6 million, with a 1 percent variance.

The Road fund had a large variance, as the final budget was $1.4 million and the actual came in at $1.9 million. Allman said this was a result of the large Berrien County invoice that needed to be paid in advance for the Union Pier Streed Drain Project.

Board members approved committing $15,000 for landscape improvments. Bunte said the Lakeside Association put together a potential plan for the landscaping, with the $15,000 amount covering the purchasing of plants and installation and the first year of maintenance.

Monarch Butterfly Migration Month and the Watershed Almanac for 2025-202 were approved.

Board members approved appointing police chief Todd Taylor to the Board of Review.

From the Bleachers

COLUMN BY KURT MARGGRAF IN CHICAGO

The National Football League season is two weeks old and the Chicago Bears have the same record as the perineal powerhouse Kansas City Chiefs.

There are nine or 10 teams with the same record, and most of them, before the season began, would have been happy to be tied with the Chiefs after two weeks.

The reasons I point this out is really simple.

The Chiefs and their fans are not throwing in the towel and giving up on the season, and quite frankly, none of the other teams, or their fans, that have started the season by losing their first two games, should either.

A lot of my friends seem to think the Bears are lousy, and they won't win as many games as they did last year. I say that the Bears have played two extremely good football teams and they've not good enough, yet, to beat them.

For many years, the Detroit Lions were a bad football team, much like the Bears have been more recently. They finally hired a good general manager, who hired a good head coach, who hired good assistants, and they drafted good players. They drafted the kind of players that fit into their system.

Then, they taught them. They coached them. Because they had drafted the right kind of players, the right kind of men, they learned. They took on the personality of their head coach, one of the toughest coaches in the league. A few of them blossomed into stars and they were on their way.

His first year as head coach of the Lions, 2021, the team won three and lost 13. In 2022 they were 9-8. Followed by 12-5 and last year 15-2. After last years great season, the offensive coordinator went to the Bears and the defensive coordinator went to the Jets. The Lions lost their first game to the Packers, but more than made up for it on Sunday, hammering the Bears 52-21. They are still very good.

As for the Bears, first they lost a close game, then they lost a blowout, and I'm not sure which loss hurt the most.

Things didn't go their way in either game, but there are 15 games remaining in the season and coach Johnson isn't the kind of guy to give up. The Bears' next four games are against the Cowboys, Raiders, Commanders, and Saints, teams less formidable than the Lions and Vikings.

If the Bears are to turn around this season, winning at least three of these four games is imperative.

So, if you haven't given up, the next five weeks can be a lot of fun. Those four games and a bye week will give us a better picture of how this season will go. Hopefully the season will head in the right direction but if not, just wait until next year.

Benjamin Franklin said, "Do not anticipate trouble or worry about what may never happen. Keep in the sunlight."

Be kind. Talk to you next week. Peace, love, and happiness.

Raiders improve to 3-0 in high school football

BY STAN MADDUX

The Red Arrow Raiders remain undefeated in high school football after a dominating victory at home Friday, September 12.

The Raiders defeated Bangor 43-16 at New Buffalo High School.

The score at halftime was 31-0 after holding the Bangor offense to a negative four total yards in the first half.

"Our defense just absolutely shut them down," said Raiders Head Coach Matt Johnson.

The Raiders (3-0) opened the scoring early in the first quarter when sophomore quarterback Colten Lijewski while scrambling on fourth down passed the ball to senior Lucas Forker, who was wide open near the goal line for a 54 yard touchdown.

Senior Cooper Lynch later caught an 11 yard touchdown pass from Lijewski before they connected again on a 57 yard touchdown to give the Raiders an 18-0 lead.

A 54 yard run into the end zone by Lijewski made the score 24-0 before Lynch kicked the extra point.

The final score of the first half came from a two run by junior August Johnson for his first ever touchdown at the varsity level.

The Raiders scored next early in the second half when Lijewski intercepted a pass and ran with the ball 80 yards for a touchdown.

On offense, the Raiders struck for the final time early in the fourth quarter when junior Mason Williams after catching a short pass from Lijewski on a slant route took the ball 40 yards into the end zone for his very first varsity touchdown.

Williams was among the substitute players Johnson put into the game early in the second half with a comfortable lead.

"For him to score that touchdown, our sideline just erupted. It was totally awesome," he said.

Johnson said the victory came despite key players like Drew Bowen, Brody Nikkel and Keith Faust being out with injuries.

Hunter Gnodtke was added to the injury list when taken out of the game with a concussion.

The depth of this year's team allows Johnson to replace injured players with good talent off the bench.

Johnson said the mental toughness and determination of his players, though, also helps close any loss of ability on the field from injuries.

"They really enjoy playing with each other. Nobody points fingers. There's just a really good energy with the players," he said.

Lijewski completed 10 of 14 pass attempts for 200 yards with another 68 yards rushing.

Johnson gained 23 yards on five carries while Lynch had three catches for 77 yards.

Senior Trevor James with 10 total tackles led the way on defense helped by Lynch and junior Keio Trimm with six total tackles apiece and five total tackles from senior Nicholas Wolfe.

The Raiders play again Friday night against Lee High School from Wyoming at New Buffalo High School.

Johnson is optimistic especially with the progress shown by many of his players lacking varsity experience coming into the season.

"We're still just making certain young mistakes but we're making some great plays, too. I feel like we're where we need to be," he said.

Youth is quick in feeling but weak in judgement.
— Homer

Walkers and their dogs meander down the streets of New Buffalo

Jessica Levendski, Kasey Leake and Carla Mills got into costume for the first 5K

Runners, walkers unite in honor of 'Kiki' at 5K Fun Run/Walk

BY FRANCESCA SAGALA

Upon walking into a store one day, Sharon Frederickson said she was met with blank stares when she said she was looking for her niece, Katelyn Kelly.

"They're looking at me and they're like, 'Oh, you mean Kiki...' All her friends called her Kiki," Frederickson said.

Almost a year after her death, friends and family gathered to keep the upbeat, hard-working spirit of "Kiki" alive during a Kilometers for Katelyn-Kiki Kelly 5K Fun Run/Walk Saturday, Sept. 13.

Kiki, who lived in La Porte passed away unexpectedly Sept. 18 at the age of 34 from a brain aneurysm.

She is survived by her parents, Susan and David Kelly; sister, Marisa Kelly; grandmother, Caron Karner; boyfriend, Cameron Peterson; godparents, Sharon Fredrickson and David Seastrom; numerous aunts, uncles and cousins; and three special dogs in her life that she adored, Helly, Murphy and Cleveland.

She was a graduate of New Buffalo High School.

According to her obituary, Kiki worked as a bartender and was a talented mixologist. She worked her way up, selling clothing at Stray Dog in New Buffalo before moving on to hostess, waitress and then bartender.

Frederickson said that Kiki was well-known in the area, having worked at a variety of area establishments: Casey's Bar and Grill and False Front, both in New Buffalo, Shoreline Brewery in Michigan City and Union Pier Social in Union Pier.

"People will tell me, 'We loved her as our waitress and we would come and ask specifically for her,'" Frederickson said.

Saturday's event, which started at St. Mary of the Lake Catholic Church in New Buffalo, ended in the parking lot of Casey's, with a post-race celebration that included live music, food, raffles and swag.

Daemyen Middlebrooks, who was the runner to cross the unofficial finish line, said that he and his friend, who has a house in New Buffalo, have been coming to Casey's for two years, where Kiki was the bartender.

"Of course, once we heard what happened that was very sad, so you come out here and show your support for them without a doubt," Middlebrooks, who was running with RileyKensley and friends Stephanie French and Anthony Vasvery, said

In addition to being held a year after Kiki's passing, the 5K was also held during Brain Aneurysm Awareness Month.

Proceeds from the event went to The Bee Foundation for Brain Aneurysm Prevention, which, according to its website, is "dedicated to saving lives and providing hope by funding preventative research, raising awareness, advocating for better policy, and supporting aneurysm families and survivors."

Kiki had several symptoms, such as dizziness and headaches; however, Fredericksons aid, no one connected them to a brain aneurysm. The condition is also hereditary, which means family members should get an MRI and check for it as well.

The event's Facebook page said that the event raised $35,000 for brain aneurysm awareness and research. Frederickson said that, if $25,000 was raised, a research grant will be issued in Kiki's name.

Reaching that goal, Frederickson said, will hopefully raise awareness about brain aneurysms not only for the public but for those in the medical professions.

"To me, it's really important to get people aware of what the signs and symptoms are of a brain aneurysm not just for us but the medical community too because they're leaning as well," she said.

"If we can save one family from going through this, we've been successful," Frederickson added.

For more information on The Bee Foundation, visit www.thebeefoundation.org.

Sharon Frederickson congratulates walkers and runners at Casey's

Walkers meander down Berrien Street

Runners and walkers were off the races in St. Mary's parking lot

Enjoying camerderie in the parking lot of Casey's

Jeanne Franks performs jazz at Commune Market

The Steven Hashimoto Quartet performs at The Vickers Theatre

Jazz Fest debuts in Three Oaks

BY FRANCESCA SAGALA

The legacy of the late Garth Taylor, founder of the School of American Music (SAM) came alive during SAM's inaugural Jazz Fest, which took place Friday through Sunday, Sept. 12-14, in Three Oaks.

Per a press release, it was Taylor's dream to bring a world-class jazz festival to the heart of Three Oaks.

Performers included Martha Cares, who's a Grand Prize winner of the International Bel Canto Opera Competition and the International Friedrich Schorr Opera Competition, at The Acorn Center of the Performing Arts, followed by Lynne Jordan & The Shivers, who delivered a night of jazz, blues, funk, and soul with her explosive powerhouse vocals; Steven Hashimoto, a longtime bassist and Chicago music legend, who performed with his dynamic quartet at The Vickers Theatre and Jeanne Franks, who performed at a Jazz Brunch at Commune + Market.

Heidi Smith, executive director at SAM, welcomes the crowd at Commune Market

A crowd enjoys brunch and Jeanne Franks at Commune Market

OHIO MAN IDENTIFIED AS DECEASED INDIVIDUAL FOUND IN SAWYER POND

The body of a deceased individual who was found in a pond in Sawyer last week has been identified.

According to a Sept. 11 post from the Chikaming Township Police Department's Facebook, the individual has been identified as Charles Zalewski, 48, of Ohio.

At approximately 11 a.m. Monday, Sept. 8, Deputy Chief Roe was dispatched to Arlington Metals in Sawyer, Michigan, following a report of a body discovered in a pond on the property.

As of Sept. 16, the circumstances surrounding Mr. Zalewski's death remain under investigation.

"We ask that anyone who may have information related to this incident contact Deputy Chief Roe at 269-469-3245," the police department said. The Berrien County Sheriff's Office assisted at the scene. — STAFF REPORTS

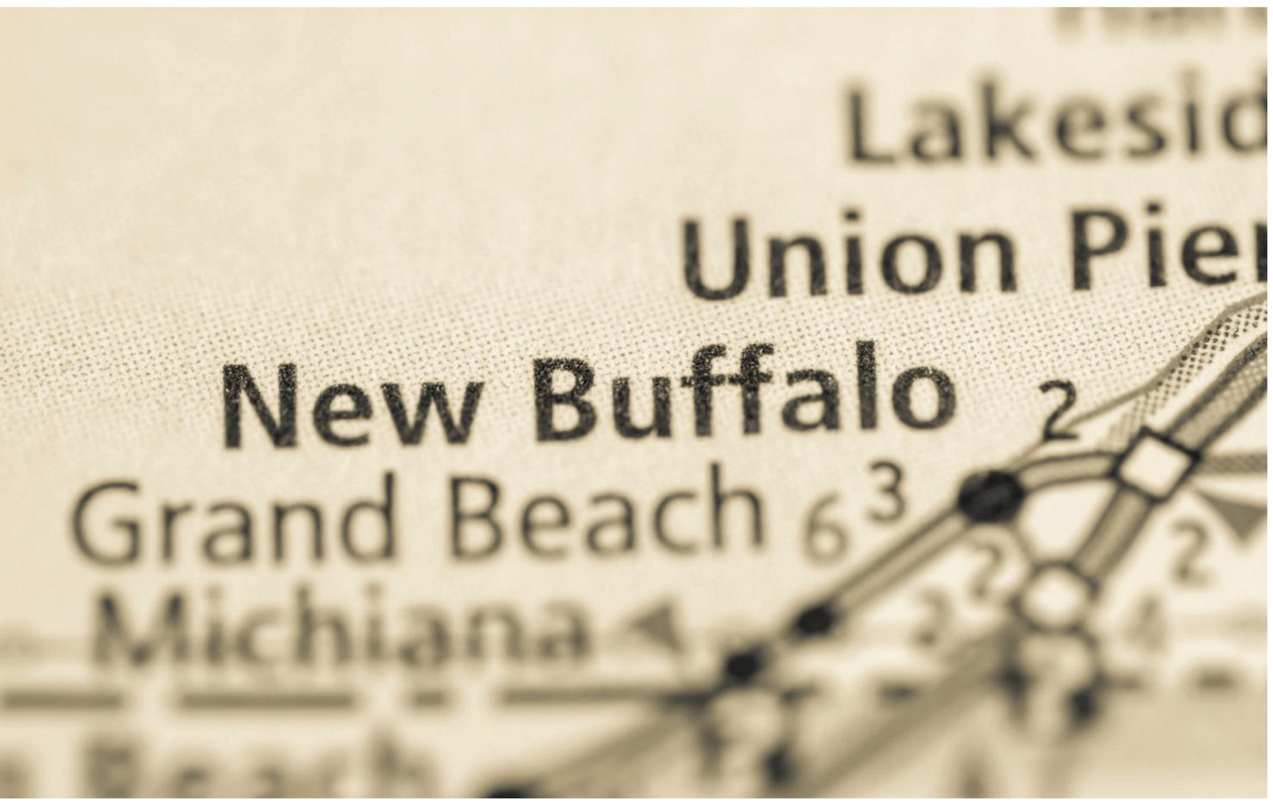
HIKERS TO EXPLORE INDIANA DUNES GREAT MARSH TRAIL

Hikers will be hiking a 1.3-mile hike on the Indiana Dunes Great Marsh Trail at 10 a.m. Saturday, Sept. 20.

Surrounded by sand dunes and beaches to the north and ancient beaches, wetlands, moraines and even more sand dunes to the south, the Indiana Dunes Great Marsh is an easy hike with great views of the largest Interdunal Wetland in the Lake Michigan watershed. Harbor Country Hikers President Pat Fisher will tell the glacial story of The Great Marsh of Northwest Indiana. The National Park Service states that passes are required for the trail.

The Great Marsh abounds in the diverse animal activity of a healthy wetland ecosystem. The trail includes an ADA Observation Deck.

For more information, including driving directions to the Indiana Dunes Great Mash Trail visit the Hikers' website, www.harborcountryhikers.org, or its Facebook page. — STAFF REPORTS



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Three Oaks toasts to 'Oaktoberfest'

BY FRANCESCA SAGALA

Festivalgoers said "Prost" to another year of food, beer and live entertainment at the third annual Oaktoberfest, which took place Friday through Sunday, Sept. 12-14, at American Legion Post 204 in Three Oaks.

Guests danced to a line-up of local and regional bands, enjoyed German cuisine, which included brats from Drier's Meat Market and sampled the Oktoberfest style beers. Ghost Isle Brewery was back to defend its title as 2023 and 2024 Best Regional Oaktoberfest Brew winner against Bridgman's Lake Time Brewery and Michigan City's Burn 'Em Brewing.

Oaktoberfest benefited River Valley Mustang Foundation, a volunteer, nonprofit organization consisting of parents and educators that supports River Valley Schools.

Dan and Dana Behler enjoy good beer and cheer underneath the tent

Shelley Young grills bratwurst

The Phenix performs Saturday afternoon

Families flock to a carnival on the legion's grounds

Three Oaks American Legion Post 204 Color Guard opens the ceremonies

Members of the Rheinischer Verein Karneval Mardi Gras Society of Chicago take center stage at the opening ceremonies

Eila Ege enjoys German cuisine

Volunteers and supporters of Oaktoberfest take center stage

Steve Graziano and Carol Himmel tap the keg

As Seasons Shift

PHOTO BY ELAINE THOMOPOULOS AT WEKO BEACH

As the sun lowers, its light cuts through more of the atmosphere, scattering shorter blue wavelengths and leaving behind the longer reds and oranges.

In late summer, the air is still heavy with moisture, softening the horizon into a haze. By early fall, cooler, drier air sharpens the sky, and the sunsets take on a deeper clarity.

The same star, the same angle of descent — yet the season alters the palette, reminding us that light is never separate from the air it travels through...

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Do you have a favorite photo of a sunset? Share your view with us! Email your photo and a short caption to info@newbuffalotimes for a chance to be featured in the *New Buffalo Times*.

Man taken into custody after break in, assault at New Buffalo residence

According to a press release from the City of New Buffalo Police Department, at approximately 8 a.m. Tuesday, Sept. 16, police were dispatched to the area of the CSX railroad tracks on South Whittaker Street for a report of a naked male subject, who was walking a dog near the railroad tracks.

While trying to locate the subject, the police department received "further information that the same subject had broken into a residence and assaulted a subject inside," the release stated.

Upon arrival, the police found the subject had "barricaded himself inside a bedroom and refused to come out." Officers forced entry into the bedroom and took the subject into custody.

Upon being taken into custody, the subject violently resisted officers and was the "recipient of multiple taser deployments." After being taken into custody, they were then transported to Franciscan Hospital in Michigan City for treatment.

No officers were injured. The residence's victim had minor injuries and didn't need medical treatment.

Assisting at the scene were Berrien County Sheriff's Department, Pokagon Tribal Police Department, Berrien County Sheriff's Department Evidence Technical Team, Chikaming Township Police Department, Michigan State Police Motor Carrier Division, Grand Beach/Michiana Police Department and Medic 1 Ambulance. — STAFF REPORTS

Prison worker accused of smuggling for money

BY STAN MADDUX

A prison worker from the Chicago area is accused of accepting large sums of money from inmates to bring them marijuana on numerous occasions.

Jessica Chalupa, 34, is charged in La Porte Circuit Court with Level 5 felony bribery and Class A misdemeanor trafficking with an inmate.

According to court documents, the investigation triggered by an anonymous tip revealed Chalupa was a kitchen supervisor at Westville Correctional Facility and helped by an inmate kitchen worker to bring marijuana inside.

The evidence includes 37 transactions on her cash app account with three inmates totaling more than $10,000 in exchange for the marijuana, authorities said.

The investigation also turned up text messages between Chalupa and her inmate co-worker in the kitchen, including one of her holding a wad of money in front of the steering wheel of her vehicle, according to court documents.

Authorities said Chalupa, initially, denied the allegations when confronted by prison investigators in late August, but when pressed further her response was "if you already know, then why are you asking me?"

The woman from Sauk Village, Illinois, could face as much as six years on the most serious count.

Future of historic Beverly Shores Depot on solid ground

BY STAN MADDUX

The last remaining train station of the South Shore Railroad commuter line from the 1920's at Beverly Shores should be around for many more years through a new partnership.

Any doubts about its future were eliminated through a 100-year lease between the Northern Indiana Commuter Transportation District, which operates the railroad, and Indiana Landmarks.

Under the lease, the old train station will continue to be occupied by the Beverly Shores Depot Museum and Art Gallery.

"Partnerships form the backbone of our work across the state to preserve historic places," said Brad Ward, president of Indiana Landmarks.

The Spanish Colonial Revival-style depot was slated for demolition before local supporters rallied to save it and secure its listing in the National Register of Historic Places in 1989.

The old depot with its familiar iconic scripted neon sign also houses a gift shop while serving as a cultural and community center.

Under the agreement, Indiana Landmarks will provide access to grants and other forms of assistance to help with future repairs and maintenance.

NICTD will also provide an initial $50,000 grant for needed repairs along with a yearly undisclosed contribution to help with upkeep.

"We are thrilled to have the knowledge and resources of Indiana Landmarks behind us as we work to preserve this historic treasure, the depot," said Monique Rub, Beverly Shores Depot Museum and Art Gallery Board President.

A Writer's Life...

DURING THE GOLDEN AGE OF TELEVISION ANIMATION

BY JACK OLESKER

The World According to Howard Cohen

After I delivered the final Care Bears script to Lori, I slinked to my office. The let down hit me like a blacksmith's hammer. I'd spent so many months with wonderful characters and suddenly they were gone. I'd miss Grumpy Bear, Champ Bear, Friendship Bear and the whole crew. I'd miss them a lot...

Brooding in my windowless office, the silence closed in. I walked from my office feeling like I was moving in slow motion as I passed happily working artists and writers. I imagined them stealing glances at me, thinking, "There goes Olesker. His series is over. Poor guy. Dead man walking."

I came around a cubicle to see Howard holding court, surrounded by newer staff and writers, pontificating about his glory days directing films for legendary B-film producer Roger Corman. When he was finished, someone chimed, "I saw you at Hamburger Hamlet last night with a gorgeous gal. How do you do it? I mean...you're not..." When the newbie fumbled, words trailing off as he realized his gaffe, Howard let him off the hook with, "I know what you mean. I'm no John Travolta." There werenervous snickers.

Howard lowered his voice conspiratorially. "Here's how I do it." He paused, milking it as he watched his audience move in closer for the reveal. He confided, "I ask a hundred beautiful women to dinner. If three accept, then I'm doing pretty well."

There was good-natured laughter all around as Howard basked in gracious self-denigration. I reluctantly gave him credit in my book. Anyone who could laugh at himself was okay with me, even if they came off as a bit of a benign male chauvinist.

As Howard's audience dispersed he moved toward me, an anticipatory look of veiled glee in his eyes as he asked, "So how's Care Bears coming, kid?"

I didn't like his use of the word 'kid'. I was relatively new to children's entertainment but I didn't need to be reminded of it today. When I said, "I just delivered the last script to Lori" he brightened. Thinking he should also be worried about the season wrapping, I added, "I don't knowif we'll get a pick-up for more episodes."

Without a blink Howard said, "Care Bears is going to Nelvana for the next season."

Showing my lack of knowledge about the children's entertainment industry, I asked, "Who's Nelvana?"

Howard puffed in feigned exasperation up, pleased to 'teach' me something. "They're a Canadian animation studio. Word is they under bid DIC on the series' production costs."

I asked, "How can they do that?"

Enlightening me further, Howard explained, "They get a subsidy from the Canadian government. They can produce the series for half of what DIC charges."

When I said that didn't seem fair, Howard replied, "Welcome to the world of international television, kid."

Three things happened after our conversation: I assumed Howard was right, I realized I have research to do if I want to be a part of this industry and I still didn't like him calling me 'kid'. For me, Howard's stock had gone up a couple points. It would be that way – up and down, up and down – for as long as I would know him.

HOROSCOPE

SEPTEMBER 18-24, 2025

AS INTERPRETED BY SANDY "STAR" BENDT

ARIES MARCH 21—APRIL 19

You'll be performing a balancing act between your friends and your relationship or your career and social demands. This is the time to be tough and stick with what is truly heartfelt and in line with a higher purpose. Even if you feel like you'll lose power, do what's right.

TAURUS APRIL 20—MAY 20

You may feel a little lost in the shuffle or so caught up in work drama that no one is noticing how much hard work you are really giving to projects. You will sort of be on your own, doing most of the work this week. Fortunately, you will be turning out top notch work which always pays off big.

GEMINI MAY 21—JUNE 21

You'd rather be having fun or creating art, than putting in long hours at the office and spending most evenings recuperating from the heavy work load, this week. The good news is you will expand your spheres of influence and have a greater say in future projects and less of the grunt work.

CANCER JUNE 22—JULY 22

Unexpected moves made by others will cause you to have to adjust your living arrangements or homelife in some way. Partners and friends may not totally understand the intensity or struggle it really is but fear not. By handling things straight away you will restore balance and your good image.

LEO JULY 23—AUGUST 22

You will have a real need to communicate and let others know your true feelings. The problem is your actions may not be in line with the things you say you want. It's like you're working against yourself. The blessing is partners know your true nature and will support any journey you want to take.

VIRGO AUGUST 23—SEPTEMBER 22

This is not the time to blow off responsibilities or put off chores to have fun with friends. It's time to build up resources and increase your savings. You'll be blessed with good backing and a solid follow through from other people when you get serious about your finances.

LIBRA SEPTEMBER 23—OCTOBER 22

It's important you experience more freedom in your daily routines and don't get bogged down in commitments or chores at home. Breakthroughs will come when you let your creative, playful side take the lead. Rather than being the task master keeping everyone in line, be the requester.

SCORPIO OCTOBER 23—NOVEMBER 21

Take some time for yourself this week and reconnect with what makes you happy. Partners and loved ones may inadvertently disrupt your personal time so be sure you let them know you need some down time. When you don't get privacy that's when your stinger comes out.

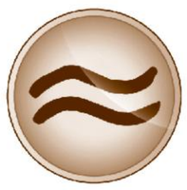
SAGITTARIUS NOVEMBER 22—DECEMBER 21

You'd really like to go out and have a good time rather than stick to your wholesome routines. It's not only financial reasons that will keep you from playing hooky but the commitments to yourself to be healthy will outweigh the need to cut loose. Stay on that healthy track.

CAPRICORN DECEMBER 22—JANUARY 19

It may be difficult to manifest all the things you want to right now which could make you feel a little inadequate this week. But fear not my Goat friend the resources or support you need will be forthcoming. You just need to get the ground work done and the rest will all fall into place.

AQUARIUS JANUARY 20—FEBRUARY 18



Surprise situations at home may keep you from leaving or getting to appointments on time. Also, you may not be able to go alone or work in your usual manner, but this will not only increase your productivity it will also build your confidence. Good work Angel.

PISCES FEBRUARY 19—MARCH 20

It may be difficult for you to express your innermost feelings with friends this week because you'll be feeling like you don't fit in with your usual social crowd, which will push you into finding inner support and a deeper understanding of what truly validates your feelings.

Experience is not what happens to you; it's what you do with what happens to you. — *Aldous Huxley*

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Sudoku

Fill in the grid so that every row, column and 3x3 box contains the numbers 1 through 9.

		1			6			
			4	5		3		
6	4				1			2
4	5				7			
				2				6
	3					8		
3			5				8	
8	1	2						5
								7

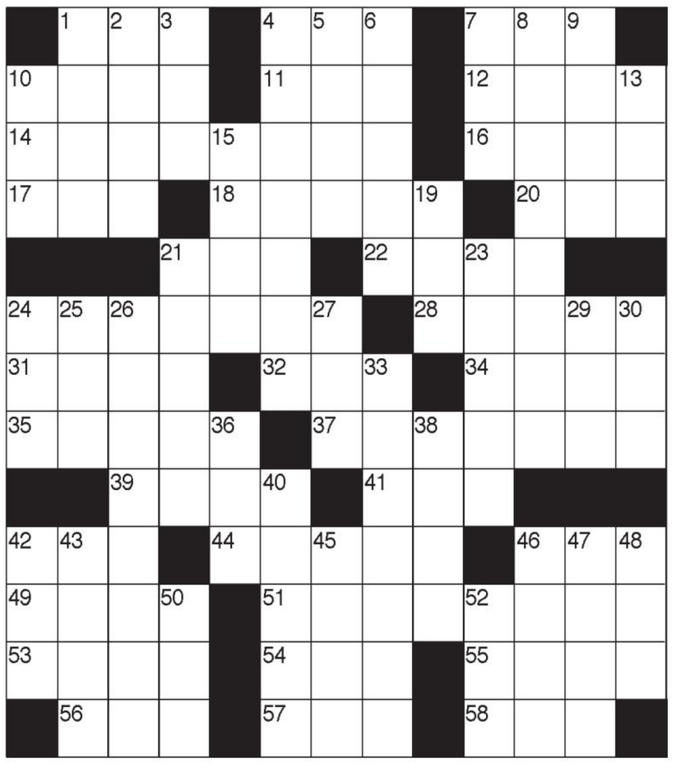
CROSSWORD PUZZLE

ACROSS

1 Limited (abbr.)
4 Bachelor of Engineering in Mines (abbr.)
7 Atl. Coast Conference (abbr.)
10 Agricultural establishment
11 Grape
12 Fahrenheit (abbr.)
14 Large number
16 Silly smile
17 Irregular moving part
18 SW Alaskan native
20 Old Provencal (abbr.)
21 Abatement
22 Legal
24 Destroyed
28 Loose
31 Few (pref.)
32 Wish undone
34 Broad structural basin
35 Clemenceau's nickname
37 Patient
39 Den
41 Spread to dry hay
42 Master of Science in Engineering (abbr.)
44 Oriental country
46 Queen's bishop's pawn (abbr.)
49 Eight (Ital.)
51 Exclusive possession
53 Insane (arch.)
54 Adjective-forming (suf.)
55 Highest point
56 Dry (pref.)
57 Ike
58 Son of Ra

DOWN

1 Byron poem
2 Prune
3 Doctor of Modern Languages (abbr.)
4 Constructor
5 Bacchanalian cry
6 Siberian wild cat
7 Afghanistan (abbr.)
8 Spree
9 Nick
10 Federal Trade Commission (abbr.)
13 Royal Naval Reserve (abbr.)
15 Language (abbr.)
19 Egyptian god of the sky
21 Tidal bore
23 Toward center
24 Lose freshness
25 Adopted son of Mohammed
26 Play
27 Driving under the influence (abbr.)
29 Hebrew judge
30 Youngster
33 Agreement
36 Comparative ending
38 Official negation
40 Suited to the occasion
42 Master of Hounds (abbr.)
43 Hades river
45 Cohere
46 19th Hebrew letter
47 Blue (Fr.)
48 Church box
50 Across (poet.)
52 Steps in ballet



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To Your Health

COLUMN BY KAREN EDWARDS ND

CLUTTER CAN CAUSE HEALTH ISSUES

Do you ever bring an impulse purchase into your home that you don't have a designated space and it remains forgotten in its bag? Do you honestly think that you will take the time in the future to work every saved crossword puzzle book, or read all the magazines that you save in stacks of piles? Are you really going to use those lids to the bowls that you broke years ago? Are you saving clothes that no longer fit, but you hope will one day fit into again?

People may hold on to things they don't need due to psychological factors like emotional attachment, fear of regret, and anxiety about the future. Maybe they never had things before. Clutter for many people is a security blanket. Or we have learned it. Often people feel they have to save it because they will truly need it in the future.

Clutter is anything we don't need or use, that takes up space and destroys our serenity. You know you are in trouble when clutter begins to create a risk of falling, a fire hazard, or even infestation in some cases.

If you have a ton of stuff you really don't use or need, Ask yourself this question: "Why am I really holding on to this.?" Your answer may surprise you. Understanding your personal psychological impact of clutter is crucial for addressing it head on and improving mental clarity and emotional well-being.

Time to change is when we really notice the clutter more. Closet doors wont close, things fall out of your cupboards when you open them. You can't fit one more thing in your drawer. You have to move things from one area to another just to sit down.

Clutter accumulates in everyone's home over time – if we let it. It can be the root of relationship quarrels or even separation. It can cause great depression and anxiety. Ourmental health is at stake when clutter begins to gather around our homes. The more clutter, the more stress. It begins to create chaos and emotional stress other areas of your life. You run. Often, buying more stuff. Some people hold on to clutter because they are saving it for their kids. Truthfully, most kids today don't want their parents old clutter.

We don't own our possessions, they own us. Clutter and the disorder that it brings is only part of the problem. Professionals tell us that the clutter is often a product of our unresolved issues. Physical clutter can cause mental and emotional clutter.

Don't carry today's load into tomorrow. Decluttering gives you the space to surround yourself with what you really love and express your purpose.

When we have piles of magazines, boxes of unused items and no space to move around, we also carry that clutter in our minds and everywhere that we go. Our minds begin to clear when we have organization around us.

When we simplify our surroundings, our minds can clear and mental stress reduces.

PET OF THE WEEK

GABO

If you need someone to talk to, Gabo is for you. He loves to talk. He is about seven-months-old, neutered with his vaccinations up-to-date, and already 11 pounds. Gabo will be the center of attention, but don't be alarmed when he takes a long cat nap. His smiles are infectious, especially when he rolls over for belly scratches. If you want a new big love in your life, make Gabo part of your home today.

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New Buffalo Times
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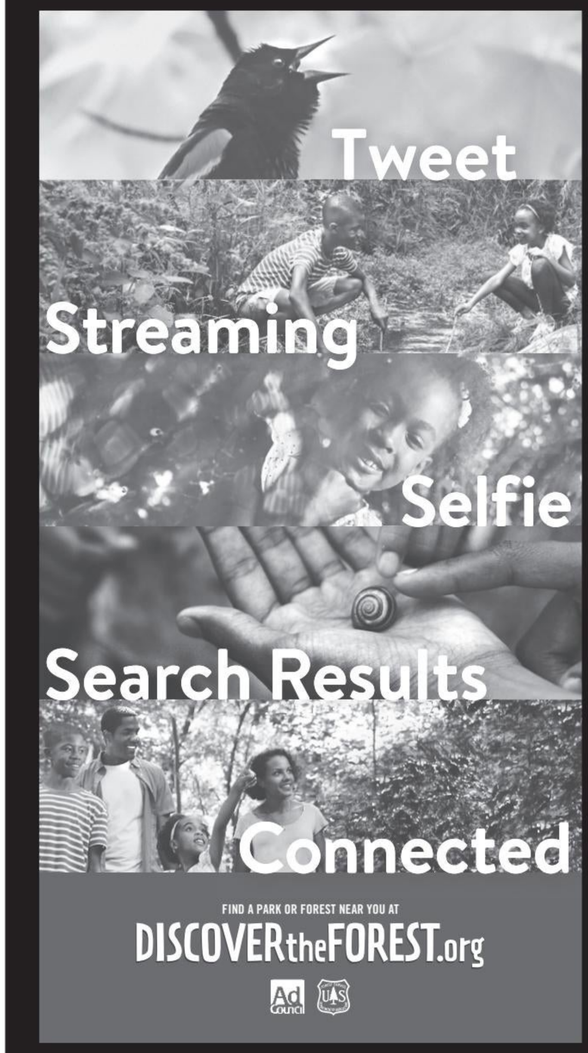

New Buffalo Township hires full-time firefighters

BY FRANCESCA SAGALA

New Buffalo Township welcomed two full-time firefighters onboard at the township board's Monday, Sept. 15, meeting.

Firefighter Noah Sharum, who's been with the fire department since 2017, and Peyton Lijewski, who's been with the department for about three years, were approved for the positions with the hourly rate of pay of $25 an hour plus full benefits starting Sept. 22.

"We are truly honored to have you full time," Township Supervisor Michelle Heit said.

A resolution stating the township's commitment to participate in a "collaborative effort with other municipalities in the region to offer more robust economic development programs and services" was adopted.

Board members adopted a resolution that adopted an ordinance that states that all private streets are considered fire lanes.

A resolution for the U.S. 12 Water Sewer Special Assessment District was amended, which revised the date of the first installment due on the roll.

A quote from Peerless Midwest for $18,200 and Kennedy Industries for $28,990 for three pump rebuilds for the water department were approved.

A bid of $114,380 from Oselka Construction for the water fill station project at the water department was approved.

Board members approved a six-month extension of a preliminary approval of an SLU to operate adult use marijuana retail establishments to LJA Holdings VI, LLC at 19563 U.S. 12, until March 15, 2026.

Board members approved postponing determination on a two-month extension of preliminary approval of an SLU to Harbor Country Drive LLC at 18910 Harbor Country Drive to operate an adult use marijuana retail establishment at 19169 U.S. 12 until the regularly scheduled October meeting.

Fire Chief Jamie Flick welcomes Peyton Lijewski and Noah Sharum as full-time firefighters

A 90-day extension of preliminary approval of an SLU for Rapid Fish 3 LLC to operate an adult-use marijuana retail establishment was denied.

A license transfer from 5 Lakes Farm LLC to BB Innovations LLC for a marijuana retail establishment at 19267 U.S. 12 was granted.

Final approval of an SLU to operate an adult use marijuana retail establishment at 19730 M-239 to NB19750 LLC was approved.

REGION OF THREE OAKS MUSEUM TO HOLD 'MICHIANA AT THE MOVIES' FUNDRAISER

"Motion picture shows" came to our area 120 years ago, drawing early condemnation in local papers: "Certain features were very distasteful," reported the "Three Oaks Acorn."

But moviegoing caught on and produced memorable stories over the years. On Tuesday, Sept. 23, at 7 p.m., The Region of Three Oaks Museum and three important local movie presenters will tell those stories at a special fundraiser for the museum, "Michiana at the Movies".

Museum Vice President Nick Bogert will show and tell about the early days— the competition between the Fairyland and Princess theaters, the musical Lee family providing the soundtrack for silent Oilms, how "magic lantern" shows and radio programs helped draw customers, and the advent of "talkies."

Jon Vickers, Bill Lindblom, and current Vickers Theatre owner Zach Hackett will talk about their experiences as "cinema impresarios" at the Vickers, which went through hard times before being rejuvenated as a charming movie venue and valued community resource.

Tickets for this special program are available through the Vickers website, https:// vickerstheatre.com/calendar, or at the door. Tickets are $15 for the public and $10 for current museum members. From the purchase of each ticket, $5 will be donated to the museum.

The Region of Three Oaks Museum is a 501 (c) (3) nonprofit enterprise dedicated to preserving and presenting the history of the region of Three Oaks. The museum at 5 Featherbone Avenue is open noon to 5 p.m. Friday through Sunday through the end of October. — STAFF REPORTS

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